



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/774,517

02/10/2004

Woo-Hyuk Choi

8733.345.10-US

8692

7590

06/30/2004

Song K. Jung
MCKENNA LONG & ADRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUNG T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/774,517

Applicant(s)

CHOI, WOO-HYUK

Examiner

Dung Nguyen

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on preliminary amendment dated 02/10/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09745527.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. This application appears to be a division of Application No. 09/745,527, filed 12/26/2000. A later application for a distinct or independent invention, carved out of a pending application and disclosing and claiming only subject matter disclosed in an earlier or parent application is known as a divisional application or "division." The divisional application should set forth only that portion of the earlier disclosure which is germane to the invention as claimed in the divisional application.

Specification

2. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al., US Patent No. 6,500,702, in view of Colgan et al., US Patent No. 6,511,869.

Regarding the above claims, Lee et al. disclose a method of forming a thin film transistor substrate (figure 2D) comprising the step of forming:

Art Unit: 2871

- . a substrate (11);
- . a gate electrode (12a);
- . a gate insulating layer (13);
- . an active layer (14);
- . a source electrode (16a);
- . a drain electrode (16b) having a bent shape and having a first side facing the source electrode and a second side;
- . a protection layer (17) covers the source electrode only and the first side of the drain electrode;
- . a pixel electrode (18) overlapped and contacted with the second side of the drain electrode and gate insulating.

Lee et al. do not disclose the step of forming the pixel electrode by using a back exposure. Colgan et al. do disclose a pixel electrode processing by using a back exposure (col. 4, ln. 30). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ a pixel electrode by using a back exposure as shown by Colgan et al. in order to reduce and self alignment of the pixel electrode to signal lines further improve performance (col. 4, lines 33-35).

5. Claims 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al., US Patent No. 6,500,702, in view of Colgan et al., US Patent No. 6,511,869, further in view of Applicant's admitted prior art (APA), figures 2 and 4.

Regarding claims 5-6, 8-9, 26-27 and 29-30, the modification to Lee et al. disclose the claimed invention as described above except for a gate pad, a gate pad electrode as well as a data pad and a data pad electrode. APA's figures 2 and 4 do

Art Unit: 2871

disclose that a gate/data line (21/24) having a gate/data pad (21/23) electrically contacting a gate/data pad electrode (62/60) through a gate/data pad hole (see figure 4) as claimed.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to employ the Lee et al. device having a gate/data pad connected to gate/data line as shown by APA because it is a common practice in the LCD art in order to connect an LCD device to external circuit through gate/data pad electrode.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2297. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on 571-272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2871

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DN
6/28/2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dung Nguyen', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dung Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2871